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Request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session

Andean Zone of Peace

Letter dated 12 October 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Representatives of the member countries of the Andean Community — Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela — and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I have the honour to request the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly entitled "Andean Zone of Peace" for consideration in the General Assembly.

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum on the matter (annex I), a copy of the Declaration of San Francisco de Quito on the Establishment and Development of the Andean Zone of Peace, adopted on 12 July 2004 by the Heads of State of the member countries of the Andean Community (annex II) and the relevant draft resolution have been attached.

(*Signed*) Oswaldo **de Rivero**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Peru

(*Signed*) Ernesto Aranibar **Quiroga**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Bolivia

(*Signed*) María Angela **Holguín**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Colombia

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(*Signed*) Luis Gallegos **Chiriboga**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ecuador

(*Signed*) Fermín **Toro Jiménez**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Venezuela

Annex I

Explanatory memorandum

Andean Zone of Peace

The Andean Zone of Peace was established on 12 July 2004 at the fifteenth Meeting of the Andean Presidential Council held in Quito, Ecuador. The Andean Zone of Peace is based on the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation for all-round development, the culture of peace, efforts to prevent and combat threats to security and the quest for a fairer and more equitable international order for the Andean countries.

The Andean Zone of Peace covers the geographical area comprising the territories, airspace and waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.

Background

The Andean Zone of Peace constitutes the consolidation of different regional and subregional security initiatives such as the Andean Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation contained in the Galapagos Declaration of December 1989; the Lima Commitment: Andean Charter for Peace and Security signed on 17 June 2002; the Andean Plan to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects of June 2003; and Decision 587 of July 2004 establishing the Andean Common External Security Policy Guidelines.

Proposal

The Andean countries consider it of the utmost importance to secure international recognition of and support for this initiative, which is being presented in a very unique international context of increasing armed conflicts and terrorist threats. The establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and anti-personnel mines, where the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, among other measures, will be effectively implemented, constitutes a concrete contribution to the strengthening of international peace, security and trust, as well as to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Annex II

Declaration of San Francisco de Quito on the Establishment and Development of the Andean Zone of Peace

The Presidents of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, gathered in Quito, Ecuador, within the framework of the fifteenth Andean Presidential Council,

Inspired by the Cartagena Agreement, which reflects the shared resolve to pursue the historic task of integrating our nations, and by the principles governing international relations as laid down in the Charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States,

Convinced that the Andean integration process has made valuable contributions to the maintenance of peace in the subregion and the development of our nations, through institution-building, growing economic and commercial exchanges and a joint search for better terms of participation on the international stage,

Convinced that the strengthening and deepening of Andean integration require intensified cooperation in all areas and the consequent development of community institutions, leading to greater knowledge, trust, solidarity and fraternity among our nations,

Recognizing that peace and security are essential conditions for attaining higher levels of political, economic, social and cultural development in our countries, and that they consequently constitute objectives which are intrinsic to the Andean integration process,

Certain that the full realization of democracy and the rule of law are the best guarantee of peace,

Bearing in mind that an inherent element of the strengthening and consolidation of democracy is the shaping of fair societies in which human development is encouraged and poverty, social exclusion and unfairness are overcome,

Recognizing that justice and social cohesion, human development and cooperation for integral development are necessary for the stability of the States which compose the Andean Community,

Recalling the "Galapagos Declaration: Andean Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation",

Also bearing in mind the "Lima Commitment: Andean Charter for Peace and Security and for the Limitation and Control of Foreign Defence Spending", signed by the Foreign and Defence Ministers of the member countries of the Andean Community,

Reaffirming the content of the Andean Charter for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Welcoming the adoption of the Andean Common External Security Policy Guidelines, which constitute a milestone in the development of political cooperation within the Andean integration process,

Determined to pursue further within the Andean Community the very important step taken by the South American Presidents at the Guayaquil summit, when they declared a South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation,

Convinced of the urgent need to establish a Zone of Peace in the Andean Community which will encourage the strengthening of democratic institutions and promote security and mutual trust, as well as the balanced and harmonious development of the member countries, in order to achieve sustained improvement in the quality of life of the inhabitants of the subregion,

Hereby agree as follows:

1. To establish a Zone of Peace in the Andean Community, within the geographical area comprising the territories, airspace and waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, as a zone free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, in which the necessary conditions will be developed to permit the peaceful and agreed solution of conflicts of any nature whatsoever, as well as the causes thereof.

2. To declare that the Andean Zone of Peace is based on the responsible exercise by citizens of, and the full realization of, democratic values, principles and practices, the rule of law, human rights, social justice, human development, national sovereignty and non-interference in each country's internal affairs. It is also based on Andean identity, the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation for all-round development, and the culture of peace, as well as joint efforts to prevent and counteract both conventional and new threats to security, and the joint quest for a fairer and more equitable international order.

3. To state that the Andean Zone of Peace represents a continuous and participatory effort, aimed at promoting growing commonality between Governments, public opinion, political parties and civil society, with regard to objectives and values, such as those mentioned herein, that are widely shared.

Objectives

1. To contribute to the development and strengthening of democratic values, principles and practices and, among them, the development and strengthening of the political and institutional systems of the member countries and the region as a whole, in a context of justice, unity and social equity.

2. To ensure compliance with the prohibition on the use or threat of use of force among the member countries.

3. To encourage, within the Andean Community, the prevention of conflicts of any nature whatsoever, and their peaceful solution.

4. To contribute to international disarmament and the effective prohibition of weapons of mass destruction — nuclear, chemical, biological and toxin weapons — and their passage through the subregion, as well as the final eradication of anti-personnel mines, in accordance with international instruments in force.

5. To create the necessary conditions to overcome the problems that have a negative impact on the all-round development of our societies.

6. To contribute to the strengthening of international peace, through the development of the South American Zone of Peace, on the basis of a democratic, cooperative and non-offensive conception of security.

Guidelines

1. To define a general framework of principles and options by means of which the parties directly involved in any dispute that does not fall within the competence of the judicial bodies of the Andean Integration System may find a solution thereto.

2. To promote the design and implementation of an Andean programme of confidence-building and security-building measures, taking into account the progress achieved in the development of cross-border relations between the member countries, and in the implementation of the provisions of the Lima Commitment, the Declarations of Santiago and San Salvador and the Miami Consensus.

3. To develop a standardized methodology for the preparation of white papers on defence, taking into account the knowledge and experience accumulated in the region.

4. To encourage participation by the Andean countries in peacekeeping operations, under the authority of the United Nations.

5. To implement the Andean Common External Security Policy Guidelines, through the full implementation of Decision 505 entitled "Andean plan for cooperation to combat illegal drugs and associated crimes", and Decision 552 entitled "Andean Plan to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects", as well as other instruments.

6. To develop and extend legal, police and judicial cooperation, for the purpose of contributing to the creation of a common space for public security and justice.

7. To encourage the inculcation of a culture of peace, with a view to peaceful coexistence within the Andean Community.

8. To promote the implementation of the community policy on integration and border development, in order to prevent the appearance of tensions that may threaten peace and security in the community.

9. To encourage convergence and the consolidation of progress made in the development of the Andean Zone of Peace, through full implementation of the Common Security Policy Guidelines, with other community policies and efforts in the fields of social development, environmental management and biodiversity, as well as human rights.

10. To encourage initiatives aimed at the development and consolidation of the South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation, as well as the hemispheric and global architecture of the common security system.

Signed in the city of Quito, Ecuador, on this 12th day of July 2004.

Carlos D. **Mesa Gisbert**
President of the Republic of Bolivia

Álvaro **Uribe Vélez**
President of the Republic of Colombia

Lucio **Gutiérrez Borbúa**
President of the Republic of Ecuador

Alejandro **Toledo Manrique**
President of the Republic of Peru

Hugo R. **Chávez Frías**
President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Annex III

Draft resolution

Andean Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Aware of the determination of the peoples of the States that comprise the Andean Community to preserve their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, promote peaceful coexistence in the Andean region and develop their relations in conditions of peace, self-determination and freedom,

Bearing in mind the commitment of the peoples of the States that comprise the Andean Community to promote political, economic, social and cultural integration and cooperation in order to contribute to the sustainable long-term peace, security and balanced and harmonious development of the Andean region,

Recalling its resolution 58/137 of 5 August 2004 that reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of international cooperation,

Recognizing the Declaration of San Francisco de Quito on the Establishment and Development of the Andean Zone of Peace, adopted on 12 July 2004 by the Heads of State of the member countries of the Andean Community in Quito, Ecuador within the framework of the fifteenth Meeting of the Andean Presidential Council, for the purpose of establishing a zone of peace within the geographic area comprising the territories, airspace and waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, as a zone free of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as well as anti-personnel mines, in which the necessary conditions will be developed to permit the peaceful and agreed solution of conflicts of any nature whatsoever, as well as the causes thereof,

Noting with satisfaction that the Andean Zone of Peace is based on the responsible exercise by citizens of democratic values, principles and practices, the rule of law, human rights, social justice, human development, poverty eradication, social exclusion and inequity, national sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs, as well as on Andean identity, the promotion of relations of friendship and cooperation for all-round development, the culture of peace, as well as joint efforts to prevent and counteract both combat-conventional and new threats to security, and the joint quest for a fairer and more equitable international order,

Stressing that the Andean Zone of Peace represents a continuous and participatory effort of the peoples of the States that comprise the Andean Community aimed at promoting growing commonality between Governments, public opinion, political parties and civil society, with regard to widely shared objectives and values,

Further stressing the progress achieved by the States that comprise the Andean Community in matters of security, peace and confidence-building on the basis of a democratic and non-offensive conception of external security through the adoption of the Andean Common External Security Policy Guidelines in July 2004, as well as of other Andean norms to promote cooperation and coordination of initiatives for fostering efforts to combat the global problem of drugs and associated crimes, and

to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all is aspects,

Noting that the Andean plan to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects adopted in June 2003 is the first binding subregional instrument derived from the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects[1] adopted in 2001,

Considering that peace, security and mutual trust are essential requirements for achieving the sustainable and long-term political, economic, social and cultural development of their peoples,

Persuaded of the need to contribute to the maintenance of the Andean Community as a region free of weapons of mass destruction — nuclear, chemical, biological and toxic — as well as the definitive eradication of anti-personnel mines,

Recognizing the importance of promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Andean Community for the benefit of the entire human race, including of its peoples,

Convinced that the establishment of the Andean Zone of Peace will contribute considerably to the strengthening of international peace, security and trust, as well as to the promotion of the principles and purposes on which the Charter of the United Nations and international law are based,

1. *Welcomes with particular satisfaction* the Declaration of the Andean region, particularly the geographic area comprising the territories, airspace and waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the States that comprise the Andean Community, as "Andean Zone of Peace";

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with the States that comprise the Andean Community in promoting the principles and purposes provided for by the Declaration of San Francisco de Quito on the Establishment and Development of the Andean Zone of Peace;

3. *Encourages* the States that comprise the Andean Community to make every effort to ensure the early fulfilment of the commitments arising from that Declaration.

[1] See report on the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Traffic in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, New York, 9 to 20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15 and Corr.1) chap. IV, para. 24.